



City of Garfield

111 OUTWATER LANE
GARFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07026-2694
www.garfieldnj.org



THOMAS J. DUCH
CITY MANAGER

PHONE: (973) 340-2000
FAX: (973) 253-7965

August 13, 2018

Mr. Peter Lopez
Regional Administrator
Lopez.peter@Epa.gov
USEPA Region 2
290 Broadway
Mail Code: 26TH FLO
New York, NY 10007-1866

Dear Mr. Lopez:

This is to express the City of Garfield's support of advancing cleanup activities in the upper 9 miles of the Passaic River in an expedited manner and in conjunction with the planned removal in the lower 8 miles of the river.

The City of Garfield has a long working standing relationship with US EPA Region 2 and values that relationship. We understand that Region 2 is advancing an interim action plan for the upper 9 miles of the Passaic River that will get work done in the upper 9 miles eight years quicker than the current schedule, reduce risk immediately, remove sources that are delaying natural recovery, include a comprehensive monitoring program and, most importantly, be executed in conjunction with the lower 8-mile remediation work. We support US EPA's efforts and support action in the river sooner rather than later.

For well over 15 years, hundreds of millions of dollars have been spent studying the Lower Passaic River Study Area (LPRSA). While clarity has been provided for the lower 8 miles of the river with the scheduled largest removal in EPA's history, the communities in the upper 9 miles of the river have none and remain sitting around waiting for action. It is time to take action in the Upper 9 miles river and support the EPA's interim action.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter, please call me at (973)-340-2000, ext. 5500.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Duch, Esq.
City Manager

cc: Catherine R. McCabe, Commissioner, NJ DEP - FAX: (609) 292-7695
R. Rigoglioso, Mayor, City of Garfield



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

